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Rec'd by email
8/1/2016

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Leslie

August 1, 2016

Mr. Paul B. Baker
Minerals Program Manager
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210, Salt Lake City, Ut 84116

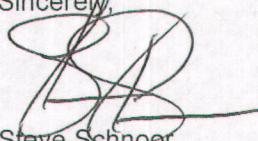
Re: Division Directive for Dust Events, June 2016

Dear Mr. Baker,

On July 5, 2016, Rio Tinto Kennecott (RTK) received the Division's "Directive for Dust Events, June 2016" dated July 1, 2016. The Directive required information in two parts by July 14 and July 27, 2016 respectively. RTK requested an extension on July 13, 2016 and was granted an extension to August 2, 2016. We understand that the Directive was the result of a citizen complaint of visible dust over RTK's East Waste Rock facility, which was accompanied by photos.

Although it is unclear to RTK if the rules cited in the Division's Directive apply, RTK was, and continues to operate within air permit limits at the Bingham Canyon Mine, including the East Waste Rock project. Additionally, RTK did not identify air quality compliance issues during June 5 through June 9. We continue to maintain compliance records as required by our Utah Division of Air Quality Approval Order and approved Fugitive Dust Control Plan, and those records are available from UDAQ. RTK's air permit is the regulatory document that governs our fugitive dust emissions. The permit allows for visible dust from mining operations with limits. However, RTK has a policy of continuous improvement and is aware of the concerns of the Division, residents and other stakeholders. We value input from stakeholders and are proactive with action-oriented suggestions from the community and others. We will continue to research and seek input on improvement opportunities. This year RTK has taken several improvement actions to mitigate visible dust. For example, we've implemented updated dust response guidelines, created additional internal metrics for visible dust, and optimized water and suppressant delivery systems. We've also implemented additional awareness training for Mine personnel to identify and more effectively communicate areas of potential concern. We are happy to meet with the Division staff to discuss the results of our review and to further explain RTK's dust mitigation measures.

Sincerely,



Steve Schnoor

Manager

Environment, Land and Water

cc. Leslie Heppler, DOGM, via email